

## 1 Claims

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1. A method for forming water-soluble glass fibres, the method comprising providing a composition suitable for producing a water-soluble glass and heating said composition above the melting point of said glass to form a molten glass, cooling at least a portion of said molten glass to a pre-selected working temperature and then processing said molten glass having said working temperature into fibres.
2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein said portion of said molten glass is cooled slowly to said working temperature.
3. A method as claimed in either one of Claims 1 and 2 wherein said working temperature is 50-300°C above the T<sub>g</sub> of the glass.
4. A method as claimed in either one of Claims 1 and 2 wherein said working temperature is at least 200°C below the temperature to which the glass is initially heated.
5. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein glass wool is formed.
6. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein phosphorous pentoxide is used as the glass former.
7. A method as claimed in any one of Claim 6 wherein boron containing compounds are used as glass modifiers.
8. A method as claimed in Claim 7 wherein B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> is used as a glass modifier at a mole percentage of 15% or

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1 less.

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3 *add A3* 9. A method as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 8  
4 wherein said glass is a silver-ion releasing  
5 glass.

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7 *add A3* 10. A method as claimed in Claim 9 wherein silver  
8 orthophosphate is added during manufacture of the  
9 glass as a source of silver ions.

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*add  
A3*

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